



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
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# **PRESS RELEASE**

**January 4, 2005**

**RE: UNITED STATES of AMERICA v. NATHANAEL RICHARDSON**

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that Nathanael Richardson, 20, of Ontario, Canada, pled guilty before U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny to a felony charge of alien smuggling.

Assistant United States Attorney Gregory L. Brown said that Richardson was first arrested on June 5, 2004, by officers of the United States Border Patrol near the Big Six Marina on Grand Island, New York. Richardson was apprehended after piloting seven Indian and Pakistani aliens across the Niagara River aboard a motorized rubber raft. Richardson and his alien passengers had first boarded the raft on the Canadian side of the fast moving river. In an effort to avoid detection, Richardson drove the undersized raft across the river under the cover of early morning darkness without the benefit of life jackets or running lights. After reaching the Grand Island shore, Richardson was supposed to deliver the aliens to a pickup driver, who would subsequently move them on to their next destination in the United States. Richardson was arrested before the pickup could be

made.

The conviction was the result of an investigation under the direction of Peter Moran, Chief Patrol Officer of the United States Border Patrol.

Sentencing is scheduled to be conducted on April 29, 2005 at 10:30 a.m. before Judge Skretny.

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